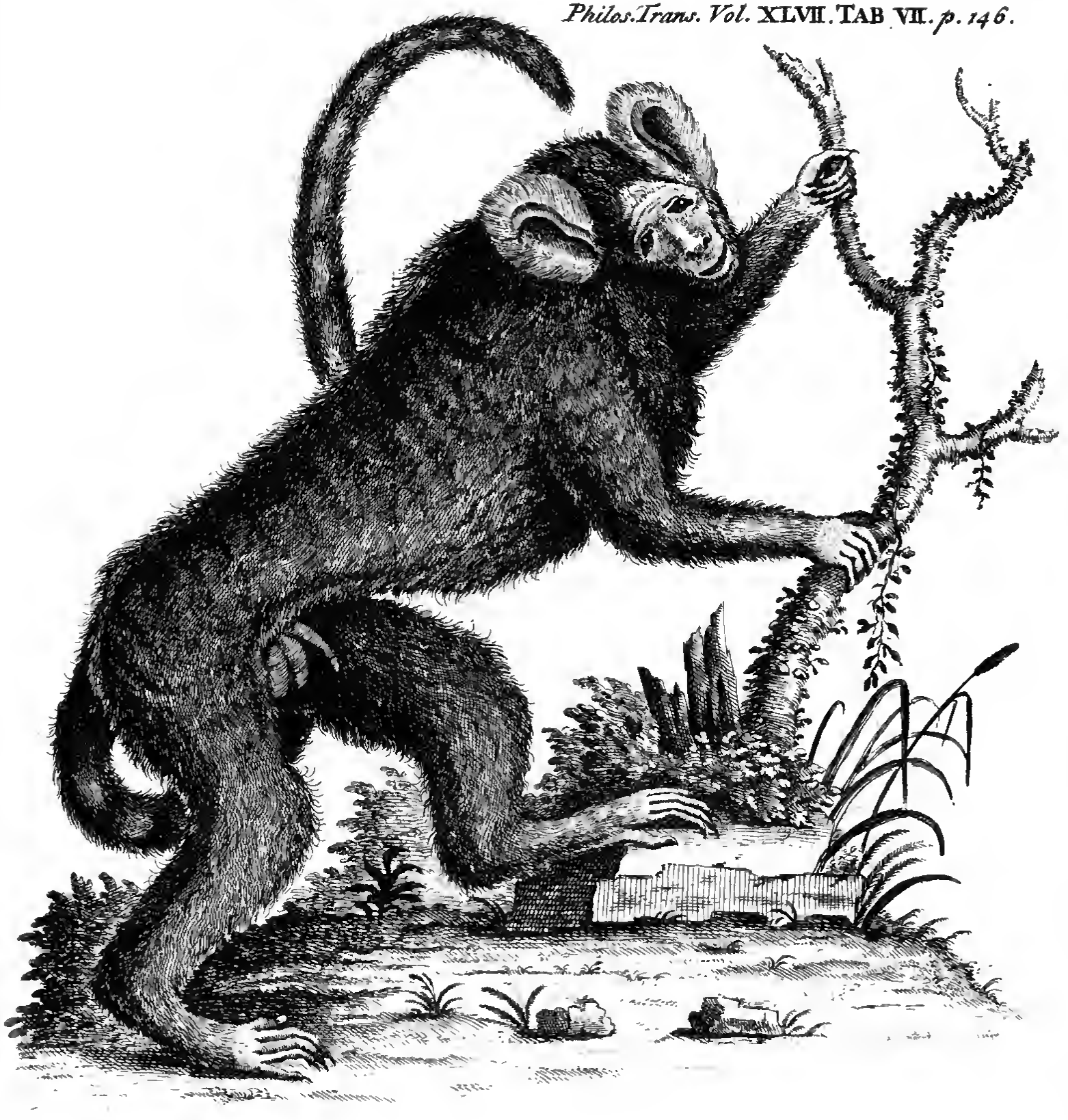
XX. *An Account of a very ſmall* Monkey, *communicated to* Martin Folkes *Eſq*; *LL. D. and* Preſident *of the* Royal *and* Antiquarian Societies, London; *by* James Parſons *M. D. F. R. S.*

SIR,

Read April 18. 1751. THE right honourable the Lord Kingſton, of Queen's-ſquare, permitted me to take a drawing and this deſcription of the little monkey, which you and the reverend Dr. Stukeley ſaw a few days ago. Its particular characters, join'd to its very ſmall ſize, induced me to think it a ſubject worthy the notice of the Royal Society; eſpecially too as there is yet no good figure of it exhibited.

It is, from the tip of the noſe to the root of the tail upon the edge of the ſpine, but ſeven inches and an half; and the tail, from its root to the extremity, is nine inches; its face about an inch long; and hardly three quarters of an inch broad at the eyes, where it is broadeſt. Its utmoſt weight is about four ounces and an half averdupoiſe.

The face is naked, and of a fleſh-colour; the eyes black, having no white part viſible; the ears are thin, large in proportion, and of a dark colour; and are ſurrounded each with a grove of very white hairs; between which the hairs of the neck are blackiſh, and ſo are the four extremities: the reſt of the body and tail is a mixture of duſky and yellow, ſo as to compoſe a dark olive; the hairs of the body are



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exceedingly ſoft, and, upon cloſely examining them, each hair is parti-colour'd, that is, duſky at the root, then a little yellowiſh, then dark, and then yellowiſh again, ſomewhat like the ſoft feathers of partridges. The fingers are ſlender, each having three joints: they are five on each extremity, and are pointed by nails rather reſembling the claws of birds, than thoſe of human bodies; which is common to moſt other ſpecies of the *cercopitheci*.

I ſince waited on Mr. Hyde, of Charterhouſe-ſquare, who ſhew'd me another of theſe, which happens to be the male of this very ſpecies now deſcribed, and ſeems about one ſize larger than my lord's, being about eight inches, meaſured by a packthread, from the noſe to the root of the tail, and from thence, the tail is about ten inches long. It weighs about ſix ounces and a quarter, is very ſlender like the female, and with ſome difficulty moves his poſterior extremities; but they ſeem always better in warm weather, and more active than in winter, being ſcarce able to bear cold.

The ſame gentleman gave me beſides an account of the following particulars relating to it:

This and a female, which is ſince dead, were brought by an Eaſt-India ſhip about two years ago, from Braſile, having occaſionally touch'd there in its return from the Indies: which ſhews Braſile to be the native place of theſe animals. And as Mr. Hyde has had his monkey now two years, theſe may be reaſonably ſuppoſed at their full growth; and perhaps the males are commonly ſomewhat larger than the females, as it is in ſome other animals. They are both very thin and ſpare, and of the ſame colour in every reſpect,

except that there are more downy white hairs on the male than on the female; the marks and features are the ſame in both; their voices are ſmall and ſhrill; and they are alike in all other reſpects but the ſex; and altho' the claws are like thoſe of a bird having hooked nails, pointed at the end of every finger of the upper extremities, the thumb of each inferior extremity in male and female is flat like the human, and has a flat nail.

Mr. Hyde feeds his monkey ſometimes with roaſted cheſnuts, ſometimes in ſummer with ſweet fruits, as gooſeberries when thorough ripe, plums, cherries, and ſuch-like; but he will not touch currants, becauſe of their acidity. He ſeems very fond of the ſmaller ſpiders and their eggs; but not the larger ſorts; nor will he touch the great blue-bottle fly, tho' he greedily eats the ſmall common flies. He frequently has a diarrhœa; and once, by accident, it was found, that he ſeem'd to love a gum, call'd gum-ſenega, which he feeds on with eagerneſs, and it never fails to cure him; ſo that he gives it to him now only occaſionally. Another kind of diet, which I ſaw him eat, was young ſnails; of which he eats three a day.

I have choſen the figure of the male to be engraved for the *Tranſactions*, put into ſuch an attitude, as will beſt ſhew the *penis* and *ſcrotum*. They are placed nearly in the ſame ſituation with thoſe of a dog; but moſt reſemble thoſe of human nature, being naked of hair, having a fair ſoft fleſh-colour'd ſkin, very tender and taper towards the end of the *penis*, which is altogether as prominent from the body as the human. The feminine part of generation of this ſpecies

conſiſts

conſiſts of a fleſh-colour'd naked piece a little raiſed, having a hole in the middle, and ſituated backwards between the *femora*, not quite ſo far as the *pudenda* of the females of other ſmall quadrupeds.

This, ſir, is the ſpecies of monkey mention'd by Marcgravius, in the fifth chapter of the ſixth book of his *Hiſtoria rerum naturalium*, *&c.* where he treats of the quadrupeds and ſerpents of Braſile; but his figure bears ſo little reſemblance to the creature, and his deſcription is ſo ſhort, that I believe you will think this farther hiſtory not unneceſſary: however, I have tranſcribed his words as follow, to ſhew that this animal is the ſame, that he deſcribes.

" Cagui or ſagui minor, tenerum animalculum et
" parvum, leonem quoque facie referens. Totius corpo-
" ris longitudo circiter ſex digitorum eſt, caudæ autem
" decem; capitulum habet parvulum, quod vix po-
" mum minus æquat: naſum exiguum elatum; ocu-
" los teneros; os parvum cum dentibus acutiſſimis;
" crura manus habent inſtar cercopithecorum, quinque
" digitis teneris prædita: aures ſubrotundas, quas
" circumſtant pili albi, ordine et cumulatim poſiti
" et quaſi eleganter eſſent pexi. Pili autem totius
" corporis interius et in exortu rufeſcunt, exterius
" ſunt ex albo et fuſco mixti; cauda autem quaſi
" ex albo et fuſco annulata eſt. Acutiſſimum edit
" ſonum voce ſua: velociſſimum eſt animalculum in
" ſaliendo: frigoris impatientiſſimum. Veſcitur pane,
" farina mandiocæ, atque aliis."

What the Braſilians call *cagui*, the Congenſes call *pongi*; which are diſtinguiſhed into the *cagui major* and

and *minor*. Mr. Ray, in his *Synopſis anim.* p. 154. chapter of monkeys, thinks, this is that ſpecies deſcribed by Cluſius from Lerius, which they call *Sagoüin.* I am,

SIR,

Your truly humble ervant,

James Parſons.

XXI. *Extract of a Letter from* Naples, *concerning* Herculaneum, *containing an Account and Deſcription of the Place, and what has been found in it.*

Read April 18. 1751. THE entrance into Herculaneum is deſcribed to be down a narrow paſſage, cut with a gradual deſcent; and, towards the bottom, into ſteps: and the city is ſuppoſed to lie about 60 feet under the ſurface of the ground. Thoſe, who go down into it, carry each of them a wax taper, and are preceded by a guide. It is ſuppoſed, that, beſides the earthquake, which ſwallow'd up this town, it was alſo at the ſame time overwhelmed with the burning lava, which then ran down from mount Veſuvius, during the eruption. And accordingly all the paſſages into it are cut thro' this lava; which is a very hard ſubſtance, like ſtone, of a ſlate-colour, and ſaid to be compoſed of various kinds of metals and glaſs; which indeed is manifeſt in the appearance of it. The ſtreets of Naples are paved with the ſame lava: but it ſeems to be of a much